



U.S. Department of Justice

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
Washington, D.C. 20535

April 1, 2019

MuckRock  
DEPT MR 70421  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Ms. Best:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the FBI. The FOIPA requests numbers below have been assigned.

FOIA NUMBER	SUBJECT	DEPT MR NUMBER
1431434-000	Khalsa, Harbhajan	70421

- ☒ Your request has been received at FBI Headquarters for processing.
- ☒ For the purpose of assessing fees, we have made the following determination:
- ☐ As a commercial use requester, you will be charged applicable search, review, and duplication fees in accordance with 5 USC § 552 (a)(4)(A)(ii)(I).
  - ☒ As an educational institution, noncommercial scientific institution or representative of the news media requester, you will be charged applicable duplication fees in accordance with 5 USC § 552 (a)(4)(A)(ii)(II).
  - ☐ As a general (all others) requester, you will be charged applicable search and duplication fees in accordance with 5 USC § 552 (a)(4)(A)(ii)(III).
- ☒ Please be advised that we have determined "unusual circumstances" apply to the processing of your request. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B)(iii). "Unusual circumstances" include the following scenarios:
- There is a need to search for and collect records from field offices and/or other offices that are separate from the FBI Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS).
- There is a need to search for, collect, and examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records.
- There is a need for consultation with another agency or two or more DOJ components.
- "Exceptional circumstances" also apply to this the sheer volume, unbounded scope, and size of these requests which may trigger an unpredictable workload for the FBI which cannot reasonably plan for a single requester to consume such a vast quantity of its finite FOIA resources. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(C)(i).

Per 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(C)(iii), as pertinent to “exceptional circumstances,” the FBI is providing you an opportunity to reasonably modify the scope of these requests. You have 30 days from the date of this letter to provide any reasonable modification

These “unusual” and “exceptional” circumstances will delay our ability to make a determination on your requests with multiple subparts. Additionally, the payment of pertinent fees may apply to your request. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(A)(viii).

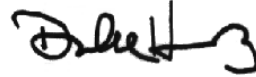
Please check the status of your FOIPA request at [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) by clicking on **FOIPA Status** and entering your FOIPA Request Number. Status updates are adjusted weekly. The status of newly assigned requests may not be available until the next weekly update. If the FOIPA has been closed the notice will indicate that appropriate correspondence has been mailed to the address on file.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under “Contact Us.” The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov). Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state “Dispute Resolution Services.” Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,



David M. Hardy  
Section Chief,  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division